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REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EXPERIMENT STATION ORGANIZATION AND POLICY, 1930*

Cooperation Between the Stations and the U. S. Department of Agriculture
and the Directors' Responsibility for Such Cooperative Projects. -- The station

director should have the same responsibility in carefully scrutinizing and approving projects that are to be cooperative between the stations and Federal bureaus or between his station and other State stations that exist when the project is limited to the station itself.

Cooperative projects with the various divisions of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, including the newly established forest experiment stations, are considered to be highly desirable, but projects involving Adams and Purnell funds must be specific and in harmony with the principles laid down by the Office of Experiment Stations.

Cooperation will generally begin with the individual workers, and they may well determine the details, but the final consideration and signature of the memorandum of agreement should be accomplished through correspondence between the station director and the chief or head of the cooperating bureau or office.

At a meeting of the association in Chicago in November, 1923, the Joint Committee on Projects and Correlation of Research included in its report the following statement:

"It will be the policy of the Department to coordinate, through the office of the Director of Scientific Work, its agricultural research within the States, with that of the State experiment stations to the fullest extent compatible with the public interest and the Department's responsibility to Congress for the effective and proper use of funds appropriated for work authorized. When research projects pertaining to the work of the State experiment stations are to be undertaken they will be brought to the attention of the colleges and stations of the States concerned. This will be done both to afford opportunity for cooperation, either formal or informal, as the conditions and circumstances may warrant, and to insure to the experiment stations knowledge of the cooperative undertakings of the Department with other agencies, either public or private, within the States, where the nature of the Department work requires such other cooperative relationships."

*Presented at the annual convention of the Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities in Washington, November 18, 1930.

Situations arise occasionally, especially in enterprises or fields of interest, in which the Department of Agriculture, finds it necessary to proceed on rather broad lines of research and over wide areas. In some cases these enterprises are undertaken under special legislation. It does not always follow that the experiment station is interested, but on the other hand it may have a vital interest, although not actively engaged in the specific field.

Your committee suggests that in all such cases the State station directors be kept informed by the Department's officials in charge, and that the regular reports and project lists be sent to the station directors as a matter of routine.

Station Research in Forestry.--The question of policy in the use of Federal funds for experiment station research in forestry has come before your committee.

The committee recognizes the close relationship of much research in forestry to research in the more generally recognized fields of agriculture, and the growing importance of forestry research. The establishment or recommending of a policy for expenditure of Federal funds in this regard, however, in the opinion of your committee is one with which the committee should not deal except upon instructions from this body.

J. T. Jardine, Chairman.
Walter H. Evans.
Dan T. Gray.
C. A. Mooers.
J. H. Skinner.
W. L. Slate.

By unanimous vote of the Subsection of Experiment Station Work, the committee was instructed to undertake a study of the question of station research in forestry and report at the next annual meeting of the subsection.

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Office of the Experiment Station.

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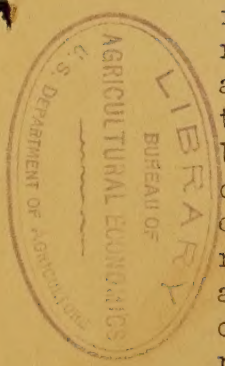
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